

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,
CHAIRWOMAN

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STATE, FOREIGN
OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS,
CHAIRWOMAN



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March 17, 2020

The Honorable Jovita Carranza
SBA Administrator
U.S. Small Business Administration
409 3rd Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20416

Dear Administrator Carranza:

The toll of the COVID-19 pandemic continues to compound and in New York alone, there are 1,374 confirmed cases of the novel coronavirus as of this letter's date. The related small business closures and reduction in business activities are threatening countless families and the state's economy. I urge the SBA to expedite its review of New York's request and declare a disaster for each named county so that eligible small businesses and nonprofits can access this critical assistance immediately.

COVID-19 is a significant threat to public health, our economy, and workers nationwide. My congressional district is home to one of the biggest coronavirus clusters in the state and country. As small businesses are the bedrock of our economy, the small business community of New York has been particularly susceptible to severe impact that will continue to unfold over the coming months. In carrying out the necessary measures to protect everyone's health and safety, small businesses need rapid and meaningful support to weather the pandemic.

New York workers, their families, and the small businesses that employ them rely upon your swift action.

Thank you for your prompt response to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Nita M. Lowey
Member of Congress

CC: Governor Andrew M. Cuomo